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This introduction is admirably conceived and executed. It gives an insight into the state of knowledge and spirit of the times and presents a general view of the scenery and nature of the dialogues in a style that students should find attractive. The methods, personality and character of Socrates are vividly portrayed. This is very well accomplished in part by interweaving translations of appropriate selections from other works of Plato and one from the *Memorabilia* of Xenophon. In this way a deeper interest in the ancient authors may be stimulated—a highly desirable result, for the reading of classical students is confined to altogether too few of the masterpieces. So the editor does well to lead his readers to the sources by placing in his introduction, for illustrating the art of Socrates, these “scraps from the sumptuous profusion spread out in the Platonic writings”. The author is thus made to serve as his own introduction—an excellent plan when possible.

Following the introduction is a brief but useful chronological table of important events, from the birth of Socrates to his death. An appendix contains a table of various readings. The absence of an English index is to be regretted.

The proof-reading has not been quite as accurate as we have a right to demand. In the summary on p. 50 “distinguish educator” is a case of haplography. Other errors are *av* for *av*, p. 62, l. 5; *Μεληρός* p. 64, l. 3; 23 C for 24 C, p. 66, in the summary; fire for stone, p. 72, in the summary; *Ἀμφίπολει*, p. 81, l. 3; 18 D for 18 E, and *ἔγαν* *γωιγε* p. 164, s. v. *ἀξιοῦν*; 17 D for 17 B, p. 182, s. v. *λόγος*. There are also some unfortunate instances of imperfect typography, as on pp. 60, 65, 68, 126, 156, 205, especially on p. 68. All these are minor defects, however, and do not seriously impair the usefulness and general excellence of the work, which should prove a highly satisfactory text-book for college classes.

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LAURIGER HORATIUS

In these degenerate days when colleges and universities have practically thrown the Classics overboard for the sake of courses in insurance and business management it is pleasant to find men wholly removed from academic influences standing up for a poet who was not without honor a generation ago. The brilliant Gladstonian days when a Greek quotation was not unusual in Parliament and a mistake in Latin quantity was hooted have gone by, but however elderly it may be, the generation still lives that can understand an allusion to Pyrrha and Lallage, to a man “integer vitae sclerisque purus”, to a monument more lasting than brass, or to the hatred of “Persicos apparatus”, the Frenchified fuss of Thackeray. For such has been compiled the

“Horace” by Charles Loomis Dana and John Cotton Dana (The Elm Tree Press, Woodstock, Vt.).

It is clearly a labor of love. The translations of the poems are arranged according to subjects, and though the editor's select from all who have made a try at rendering the Latin poet into English, from Dryden to Eugene Field, they hold in the main to the excellent versions of Sir Stephen de Vere, the brother of Aubrey de Vere. A number of entertaining essays are prefixed, among them an ingenious autobiography put together from the *Epistles* and *Satires*, a disquisition on Horace's ailments by Dr. Dana, and a careful account of the geography of his poems. While Horace is above all others the poet of the man of the world, he betrays more human feeling in his poems according to modern standards than any other Latin poet save Catullus. This selection brings that element out distinctly.

Typographically the book is very attractive. There are many illustrations, some from modern pictures, but the greater number from the quaint eighteenth century wood cuts used to illustrate Francis's translation.—*New York Sun*, May 2, 1908.

RES VARIAE

The Royal Museum authorities in Berlin have just published the text of a fine collection of Greek papyri discovered by Dr. Rubensohn on Elephantine, an island in the Nile opposite Assuan, and deciphered by the discoverer. One of the most interesting documents is a marriage contract of 310 B. C. This was the time when Ptolemy I, one of Alexander the Great's generals, became King of Egypt. It is therefore by far the most ancient of all authentically dated Greek records.

A deed of marriage is drawn up between Heraclides, a Greek mercenary, and Demetria, daughter of Leptines and Philotis, his wife, of the island of Kos, in the Aegean Sea. The bride brings a dowry of clothes and ornaments to the value of one talent. The deed is witnessed by six companions in arms, compatriots of the bridegroom.

The terms of the contract are worthy of notice. If the wife prove unfaithful, it says, she must leave her husband and lose all claim on the dowry, but three witnesses of the transgression must be produced, accepted by both parties. This shows that even in those remote times a woman was not a chattel under the husband's autocratic sway, but possessed certain well defined rights of her own.

Should the husband break faith with the wife, he must return the dowry in full and in addition pay proportionate damages. Here also the testimony of three accepted witnesses is required. Demetria, the deed further stipulates, was to join her lord in Egypt, but would afterward return with him to Hellas, where Heraclides possessed property and ships.—*New York Sun*, March 1, 1908.